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UNCLAS GUATEMALA 001783

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TIER 2 WATCH LIST PLAN FOR GUATEMALA

REF: STATE 154857

¶1. On July 16, Charge met with Vice Foreign Minister Marta Altolaguirre to discuss progress in fighting trafficking in persons, and what Guatemala can do to improve its standing on the Tier 2 Watch List. Charge delivered all the points in reftel, and Altolaguirre took careful notes of each. Charge also left a copy of the Watch List Action Plan.

Altolaguirre, who chairs Guatemala's interagency anti-TIP working group, was receptive to the actions recommended and noted that they reflected programs the GOG has already begun.

She shared with Charge a matrix of specific actions and responsibilities among GOG agencies that is the basis of Guatemala's anti-TIP plan. Altolaguirre assured Charge that the GOG completely shares our goals and is fully committed to working with us and other nations to fight TIP. She noted that lack of resources, especially to care for and protect victims of TIP, remains a serious constraint for Guatemala.

WHARTON